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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Eric AERTS

Confirmation No.:

2124

Serial No .:

10/001,286

Art Unit:

1771

Filed:

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Examiner: Christopher C. Pratt

For:

NOT-SEW SEAMLESS

Attorney Docket

9971-005-999

TECHNOLOGY

No:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication responds to the Office Action dated September 9, 2003 imposing a five-way restriction requirement on the pending claims 1-73 into groups I-V corresponding to five distinct inventions. The restriction requirement requires an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the five inventions.

The applicant, respectfully traverses the restriction requirement since examination of claims 1-73 does not necessitate separate or burdensome searches. Indeed, for instance, searching art in the context of any one of the patentably distinct Groups I-III would necessarily require substantial searching of art relevant to all of them. While Groups I-III are clearly not obvious variants of each other, for which recognition applicant gratefully thanks Examiner Pratt, it is also clear that a search directed to a 'laminated fabric with a cup' (Group II) will cover much art related to laminated garments and brassieres (Groups I and III).

The claims in Groups IV-V are directed to processes for making various laminated objects. As is clear, searching for laminated fabrics including brassieres will likely cover methods of making laminated fabrics as well as molding fabrics. Therefore, searches directed to Groups I-III will likely be highly relevant to the examination of claims in Groups IV-V. Therefore, since mere patentable distinctness is not sufficient to maintain a restriction requirement, applicants urge that in the interest of efficiency and thorough examination of the pending claims the restriction requirement be withdrawn.



LIST OF RELATED CASES

	Serial or	Filing or	Inventor/
Docket Number	Patent Number	Issue Date	Applicant
203056US2RD*	09/781,158	02/13/01	HASHIMOTO, et al.
259434US2RD	10/948,313	09/24/04	HASHIMOTO